

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings and versions of the claims in the application.

IN THE CLAIMS

1-9. (canceled)

10. (new) An electronic device adapted to be detachably mounted to main equipment for exchanging optional data with the main equipment and for executing optional functions, the electronic device comprising:

a data memory unit;

software data stored in the data memory unit, the software data including a plurality of portions each containing driver data for a respective one of a plurality of separately selectable functions, the electronic device being operable upon installation of a driver from the driver data for said selected function to execute one of said plurality of functions; and

an output unit operable, upon selecting one of said plurality of functions, to output one of said portions of the software data from the data memory unit to the main equipment, the output portion containing the driver data for the selected function.

11. (new) The electronic device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the software data are stored in the data memory unit using a file format.

12. (new) The electronic device as defined in claim 10, wherein storage addresses corresponding to keywords identifying the plurality of functions are stored at leaders of address spaces in the data memory unit, and the portions are stored at the storage addresses corresponding to the keywords.

13. (new) An electronic apparatus, comprising:

a main apparatus having a specific computer

operating environment; and

an electronic device detachably mounted to the main apparatus for exchanging optional data with the main apparatus, the electronic device including a data memory unit, and software data stored in the data memory unit, the software data including a plurality of portions each containing driver data for a respective one of a plurality of separately selectable functions, the electronic device being operable upon installation of a driver from the driver data for the selected function to execute one of the plurality of functions,

the main apparatus including an identification unit operable to identify the portions stored in the data memory unit of the electronic device, and to obtain the portion corresponding to the selected function from the electronic device upon selecting a respective one of the plurality of functions.

14. (new) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the software data are stored in the data memory using a file format, and the identification unit is operable to identify the portion corresponding to the selected function using the file format.

15. (new) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein storage addresses corresponding to keywords identifying the plurality of portions are stored at leaders of address spaces in the data memory unit, the portions being stored at the storage addresses corresponding to the keywords, and the identification unit is operable to identify the portion corresponding to the selected function on the basis of the keywords.

16. (new) In a main apparatus having an electronic device detachably mounted thereto, a method of obtaining driver software data to enable execution of an optional function by the

electronic device, the method comprising:

storing driver software data in the electronic device, the driver software data including a plurality of portions, each portion enabling execution of a respective one of a plurality of separately selectable functions;

selecting one function from the plurality of separately selectable functions;

identifying the portion of the software data corresponding to the selected function;

transferring the identified portion of the software data from the electronic device to the main apparatus; and

installing the identified portion of the software data on the main apparatus to enable execution of the selected function.

17. (new) The method of obtaining driver software data as claimed in claim 16, wherein the step of storing includes storing the driver software data in the electronic device using a file format, and the step of transferring transfers the identified portion of the driver software data based on the file format.

18. (new) The method of obtaining driver software data as claimed in claim 16, wherein the step of storing includes storing storage addresses corresponding to keywords identifying the plurality of portions of driver software data at leaders of address spaces in the electronic device, and storing the portions of the driver software data at the storage addresses corresponding to the keywords, and the step of identifying includes identifying the portion of the driver software data corresponding to the selected function on the basis of the keywords.